## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A tripod bearing assembly comprising:

a spider assembly having a trunion radially projecting therefrom;

a bearing assembly press fit onto the trunion, the bearing assembly comprising an inner race, an outer race, and a plurality of needle rollers interposed therebetween to permit relative rotation between the inner and outer race; and

means /for axially retaining the bearing assembly to the spider.

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A spider assembly according to claim 1, further comprising said trunion having a non-machined outer surface for press-fit engagement with the inner race of the bearing assembly.

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3. A spider assembly according to claim 2, further comprising a means for angularly retaining the bearing to the trunion.

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- A bearing assembly according to claim 3, wherein the inner race comprises a formed cup.
- 5. A bearing assembly according to claim 4, wherein the cup is formed by drawing.

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A method of assembling a tripod bearing assembly including a spide comprising:

forming a plurality of trunions on the spider;

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press fitting a bearing assembly onto the trunion, the bearing assembly comprising an inner race, an outer race, and a plurality of rollers interposed therebetween to permit relative rotation between the inner and outer race; and

axially retaining the bearing assembly to the spider.

- 7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the trunion is forged and the bearing is press-fit onto the trunion without machining the trunion.
  - 8. A method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of angualrly retaining the bearing to the trunion.
  - 9. A method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of drawing the inner race.
- 20 5ab 32 10. A tripod bearing assembly including a spider, comprising:

a non-machined trunion radially provided on the spider, the trunion comprising an undercut adjacent the spider, a cylindrical surface, and a snap ring groove axially spaced from the undercut;

a bearing assembly press-fit onto the trunion between the spider and snap ring groove, the bearing assembly comprising an inner race, an outer race, and a plurality of needle rollers interposed therebetween to permit relative rotation between the inner and outer race; and

means for axially and angularly retaining the bearing assembly to the spider.

- 11. A bearing assembly according to claim 10, wherein the inner race comprises a formed cup.
- 12. A bearing assembly according to claim 11,5 wherein the cup is formed by drawing.

Add 62 >